

**From:** Ross S. Heitkamp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2023 4:43 PM  
**To:** Whyte, Brandon <[Brandon.Whyte@mountainview.gov](mailto:Brandon.Whyte@mountainview.gov)>  
**Subject:** Official Public Comment for April 27, 2023 BPAC Meeting

Dear BPAC members,

In reviewing the staff proposed CIP list, I am dismayed to see that extending the Stevens Creek Trail has so far been kicked down the road yet again. The last section of the trail opened in June 2012, over 10 years ago, and the current proposal is effectively unchanged since that time. There was a Joint Cities Working Team feasibility study done which reaffirmed that trail design in 2015 and was adopted by the City Council as the plan in December 2015. Still we wait. There is now VTA funding for the design to start and Sunnyvale has already hired their design team and is underway, over a full year ahead of Mountain View for the section that follows. That's kind of embarrassing.

I guess there may be some who question whether we need more Stevens Creek Trail? To them, I'd first ask whether any part of the current trail isn't needed? It seems every inch is well used by somebody. The next section will extend the trail from Dale Ave and Heatherstone Way to Mountain View High School. This will allow students to get all the way to school without being on the same narrow and winding roads that their classmates who just got their licenses are driving on. It's a pleasant surprise that we haven't had a bad accident given those conditions, but I know there are regularly close calls - my kids just finished a total of 7 years there.

So, I urge you to move up the priority for completing the Stevens Creek Trail and make it part of the 5 year CIP starting this year on design. The trail is a significant regional transportation corridor so linking it to our neighboring cities is an important connection. It is also a wonderful recreational resource for neighborhoods and this will open up considerably more opportunities for residents to enjoy the outside, including nearly 18 acres of additional open space.

Thank you for your time.

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Ross Heitkamp

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